

United States Department of Agriculture,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

NOTICE OF JUDGMENT NO. 907, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

MISBRANDING OF A DRUG PRODUCT—"SEPTICIDE."

On or about December 9, 1909, and July 8, 1910, the Septicide Company, a corporation, Milwaukee, Wis., shipped from the State of Wisconsin into the District of Columbia two consignments of a drug product labeled: (On bottle) "* * * Trade mark Septicide. To destroy the germs of disease and for preventing decay, stopping inflammation and destroying septic material. * * * prepared solely by the Septicide Company, Milwaukee, Wis. Guaranteed under the Food and Drugs Act, June 30, 1906, Serial No. 225. Directions. * * * Take internally four times a day, 2 tablespoonfuls half hour before meals. Write for special directions. Menstruation, suppressed—is readily regulated by taking Septicide; rheumatism (inflammatory) take two tablespoonfuls five or six times a day, and bathe the parts or bind them with a compress wet with septicide; the inflammation will quickly subside * * * For the cure of * * * cancer * * * Brights Disease, consumption, tuberculosis, * * * diphtheria * * * inflammatory rheumatism * * * suppressed menstruation, cancer—keep septicide on the parts until the disease disappears." In the pamphlet packed with the product appear the following statements: "The most wonderful antiseptic ever discovered; a perfect antiseptic, germicide, deodorizer and disinfectant; * * * Septicide destroys the germs by means of gases. These gases * * * when taken internally or applied externally will actually pass through the entire system as only a gas can, and will destroy all disease germs, no matter where or how deep they may be seated; it is efficacious wherever there is inflammation, as it will arrest it at once; Diphtheria, croup * * * and sore throat—Septicide is really a specific for these complaints; * * * By a persistent use of the remedy the inflammation will be subdued very readily." "Bright's disease of the kidneys * * * Septicide has cured some of the worst cases" "When we discovered that our solution would kill the cancer germ, we made an extra effort to find such sufferers * * * and had them try it; the results were most

marvelous." Samples from these shipments were procured and analyzed by the Bureau of Chemistry, United States Department of Agriculture, and the product was found to be water containing small amounts of sulphur dioxide and sulphuric acid, with traces of nitrates. As the findings of the analyst and report thereon indicated that the product was misbranded within the meaning of the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906, the said Septicide Company was afforded an opportunity for hearing. As it appeared after hearing held that the above shipment was made in violation of the act, the Secretary of Agriculture reported the facts to the Attorney-General with a statement of the evidence upon which to base a prosecution.

On January 24, 1911, a criminal information was filed in the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Wisconsin against the said Septicide Company, charging the above shipments, and alleging that the product so shipped was misbranded for the reason that it was labeled as above set forth and did not possess the curative properties nor the value as a germicide, disinfectant, and deodorizer which said label represented it to possess; and for the further reason that said product did not possess therapeutic properties adequate to attain any of the cures claimed on said label.

On February 13, 1911, the defendant corporation appeared by Orange Williams, its secretary and treasurer, and entered a plea of guilty, whereupon the court imposed a fine of \$10.

This notice is given pursuant to section 4 of the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906.

JAMES WILSON,
Secretary of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 23, 1911.*